SOUTH BAY UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT
Imperial Beach, California

PROCLAMATION

South Bay Union School District Recognizes Attendance Awareness Month

ON MOTION of Member Elliott-Sanders, seconded by Member Amaral, the following Proclamation is adopted:

WHEREAS, good attendance and engagement is essential to student achievement and graduation, and the community is committed to dedicating resources and attention to improving attendance/participation, increasing student engagement and reducing chronic absenteeism rates, with a focus starting in the early grades from pre-kindergarten and up; and

WHEREAS, chronic absences – missing 10 percent or more of school for any reason including excused and unexcused absences, or just two of three days a month – is a proven predictor of academic trouble and dropout rates; and

WHEREAS, chronic absences can be significantly reduced when schools, families, and communities work together to monitor and promote good attendance/participation and address hurdles that keep children from getting to school; and

WHEREAS, proactive and supportive communication with families in the home language about the importance of good attendance/participation has a long-term impact on students well-being and academic success in our community; and

WHEREAS, improving attendance/participation and reducing chronic absences takes commitment, collaboration, and tailored approaches to particular challenges and strengths in each community; and

WHEREAS, it is known that attendance gaps among groups of students often turn into achievement gaps that undermine student success. Chronic absences particularly exacerbates the achievement gap that separates low-income students from their peers, since students from low-income families are both more likely to be chronically absent and more likely to be affected academically by missing school; and

WHEREAS, it is important for schools and districts to track, calculate, and share the data on all students’ attendance/participation and identifying how many students are chronically absent in order to determine attendance/participation gaps and deliver the right interventions to the right students.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED, the South Bay Union School District recognizes that September 2020 shall be known, designated, and set aside as Attendance Awareness Month, and that the community commit to focusing on reducing chronic absenteeism to give all children an equitable opportunity to learn, grow, and thrive academically, emotionally, and socially.
PASSED AND ADOPTED this 20th day of August, 2020 by the Governing Board of the South Bay Union School District of San Diego County, California by the following vote:

AYES: Amaral, Barrios, Doyle, Elliott-Sanders, and Quinones
NOES: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTENTION: None

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO)

I, Louis Barrios, Clerk of the Governing Board of the South Bay Union School District, County of San Diego, State of California, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a Proclamation duly adopted by said Board of Trustees at the regularly called and conducted meeting held on August 20, 2020.

August 21, 2020
Date

Louis Barrios, Clerk of the Board of Trustees